

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

I, Howard Thomason, the below named inventor, hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

METHODS OF PREPARING AND USING ELECTROSTATICALLY  
TREATED FLUIDS,

the specification of which was filed on December 11, 1998 as Application Serial No. 09/209,339.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to in this declaration.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to the patentability of any claim in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56, and which is material to the examination of this application, namely, information where there is a substantial likelihood that a reasonable examiner would consider it important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code §119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

<u>Country</u>	<u>Application No.</u>	<u>Filing Date</u> <u>(day, month, year)</u>
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N/A

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code §120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations §1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

U.S. Serial No. U.S. Filing Date

Status

08/878,641, 6/19/97

Pending

I hereby appoint GEORGE R. SCHULTZ, Registration No. 35,674; RICK MATOS, Registration No. 40,082; RICHARD L. SCHWARTZ, Registration No. 27,227; RANDALL C. BROWN, Registration No. 31,213; JOHN M. CONE, Reg. No. 30,538; MICHAEL E. MARTIN, Registration No. 24,821; STEVEN E. ROSS, Registration No. 35,996; and HENRY T. CRENSHAW, Jr., Registration No. 37,805; of the firm of AKIN, GUMP, STRAUSS, HAUER & FELD, L.L.P., my attorneys and agents to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith. Send all correspondence to:

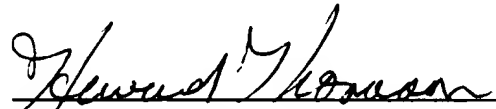
George R. Schultz  
Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld  
P.O. Box 688  
Dallas, Texas 75313-0688

Direct all telephone calls to George R. Schultz at (214) 969-2800.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of this application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of inventor: Howard Thomason  
Residence: Canyon Lake, TX 78133  
Citizenship: U.S.  
Post Office Address: 737 Shady View Drive  
Canyon Lake, TX 78133

Date: 3/12/99

  
Howard Thomason

#184472

Attorney Docket No.  
013896.0007

SMALL ENTITY  
INDEPENDENT INVENTOR

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**DECLARATION CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS**  
**(37 C.F.R. §1.9(f) and §1.27 (b)) - INDEPENDENT INVENTOR**

I, Howard Thomason, hereby declare that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.9(c) for the purposes of paying reduced fees under Section 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office with regard to the invention entitled

" METHODS OF PREPARING AND USING ELECTROSTATICALLY  
TREATED FLUIDS "

— in the application filed herewith.

X in U.S. application Serial No. 09/209,339 filed December 11, 1998.

I have not assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed, and am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license, any rights in the invention to any person who could not be classified as an independent inventor under 37 C.F.R. §1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 C.F.R. §1.9(d) or a non-profit organization under 37 C.F.R. §1.9(e).

Each person, concern or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed or am under any obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license any rights in the invention is identified below:

X no such person, concern or organization exists.

— any such person, concern or organization is identified below, if applicable:

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ individual \_\_\_ small business concern

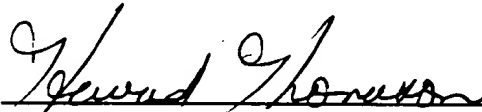
\_\_\_ nonprofit organization

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.28(b).

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

Printed Name of Inventor: Howard Thomason

Date: 3/12/99

  
Howard Thomason

#184470

09898606-070301